

20. (New) A method for promoting prolactin secretion in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, and
- (ii) the amino acid sequence wherein the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 74 is added to the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

21. (NEW) A method for promoting prolactin secretion in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 6,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 7,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (v) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (vi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 48,
- (vii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 49,
- (viii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 50,
- (ix) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,
- (x) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 62,
- (xi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 63, and
- (xii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

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22. (NEW) A method for promoting prolactin secretion in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47, and
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

23. (NEW) A method for promoting prolactin secretion in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

24. (NEW) A method for promoting lactation in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, and
- (ii) the amino acid sequence wherein the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 74 is added to the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

25. (NEW) A method for promoting lactation in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

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- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 6,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 7,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (v) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (vi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 48,
- (vii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 49,
- (viii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 50,
- (ix) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,
- (x) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 62,
- (xi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 63, and
- (xii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

26. (NEW) A method for promoting lactation in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47, and
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

27. (NEW) A method for promoting lactation in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/446,543

61, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

28. (NEW) A method for treating hypoovarianism in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

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Claim

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, and
- (ii) the amino acid sequence wherein the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 74 is added to the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

29. (NEW) A method for treating hypoovarianism in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 6,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 7,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (v) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (vi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 48,
- (vii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 49,
- (viii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 50,
- (ix) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,
- (x) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 62,
- (xi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 63, and
- (xii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

30. (NEW) A method for treating hypoovarianism in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61, and

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

31. (NEW) A method for treating hypoovarianism in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

32. (NEW) A method for eliciting an aphrodisiac effect in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, and
- (ii) the amino acid sequence wherein the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 74 is added to the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 73, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

33. (NEW) A method for eliciting an aphrodisiac effect in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/446,543

group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 6,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 7,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (v) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (vi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 48,
- (vii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 49,
- (viii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 50,
- (ix) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61,
- (x) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 62,
- (xi) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 63, and
- (xii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 64,

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

34. (NEW) A method for eliciting an aphrodisiac effect in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of

- (i) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 5,
- (ii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 8,
- (iii) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 47,
- (iv) the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61, and

or a salt thereof to said mammal.

35. (NEW) A method for eliciting an aphrodisiac effect in a mammal in need thereof, which

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comprises administering a ligand polypeptide having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 61, or a salt thereof to said mammal.

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Concluded